

Mr Vaughan Johnson MP  
Member for Gregory  
PO Box 180  
Longreach Qld 4730

Dear Mr Johnson

I refer to the petition lodged by you on 8 November 2002 with the Legislative Assembly Offices about safety of motorists on the Gore Highway at the Ferguson, Althouse and Westbrook Roads intersections.

Ferguson Road is the main access to the Gore Highway from Westbrook and carries about 2500 vehicles per day. This intersection already has turning and acceleration lanes in place and visibility is adequate in both directions. There has been only one recorded accident there in the past ten years; therefore, the Department of Main Roads has no plans to upgrade this intersection.

Westbrook Road is a 6m wide sealed rural road that carries minimal traffic each day (less than 100 vehicles). Visibility is adequate in both directions and there have been no accidents recorded at the intersection in the past ten years.

Althouse Road is a 4m wide sealed rural road and also carries less than 100 vehicles a day. Again visibility is adequate in both directions and there have been no accidents recorded in the past ten years.

On this basis, Main Roads considers that motorists have adequate and safe access to the highway from these two intersections and cannot justify installing turning or deceleration/acceleration lanes.

If you need any more information, please contact Mr Gil Heaton, the department's district director in Toowoomba, telephone 4639 0720.

Yours sincerely

Steve Bredhauer

**Minister for Transport  
and Minister for Main Roads  
Member for Cook**